

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

After entering this amendment, claims 20-34 will be pending in this application. Claim 20 has been amended to more clearly define the subject matter of the invention by removing hydrogen and halogen atoms from the possible values of R₁. Claims 27, 29, and 31 have been amended by changing their dependency from claim 1 to claim 20. New claims 33 and 34 have been added. Claims 33 and 34 find support in the specification at p. 3, 4, and 17.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office rejected claims 20-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Arzel et al., Tetrahedron, 55:12149-56 (1999), Arzel et al., Tetrahedron Letters, 39:6465-66 (1998), and Chemical Abstracts: CA 73:66535, CA 80:2917, CA 83:131494, CA 74:53453, CA 107:23214, CA 120:134243, and CA 122:133124. Full-length articles corresponding to the cited Chemical Abstracts are included in an Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently with this Response and Amendment.

This rejection is now moot in view of the amendment to independent claim 20. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants acknowledge the allowance of claims 23-32.


III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this Amendment, and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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